



USAID SAVING SPECIES PROJECT

2016 - 2021 | IMPLEMENTER: TETRA TECH ARD, WITH TRAFFIC IN VIETNAM AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY | PLANNED BUDGET: \$9,900,000

Vietnam is a U.S. Government priority under USAID's Biodiversity Policy. It is the principal destination and transit country for illegal African rhino horn and elephant ivory and a transit and source country for the illicit poaching and trade in tigers, pangolins, and other species. Demand for wildlife in Vietnam is driven by cultural norms and traditional beliefs that encourage consumption of wildlife. Deterrence of trafficking and consumption has been weak; rates of arrest are limited, the rate of convictions is less than one percent of those arrested, and penalties for convictions have been small.

USAID's strategy in Vietnam seeks to reduce the pressure of wildlife crime on endangered and threatened species. USAID Saving Species works to reduce consumer demand for and consumption of illegal wildlife and wildlife products, strengthening wildlife law enforcement and prosecution, and improving and harmonizing the legal framework for wildlife crime. The project will:

- Reduce consumer demand for and consumption of illegal wildlife and wildlife products by targeting the behaviors, beliefs, norms, and cultural expectations of key populations that drive Vietnamese consumption of wildlife and products.
- Strengthen wildlife law enforcement and prosecution by bolstering law and customs enforcement, institutionalizing police and customs countering wildlife trafficking training, and fighting corruption.
- Improve and harmonize the legal framework for wildlife crime by addressing core rule of law and governance weaknesses, supporting trade compliance, and improving the situation of overlapping jurisdictions, contradictory or unclear mandates, legal loopholes, and weak authorities.